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Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database
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DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 15/05/2006	Accident number: 108
Accident time: not recorded	Accident Date: 23/01/1997
Where it occurred: Ward 6, Kandahar city	Country: Afghanistan
Primary cause: Field control inadequacy (?)	Secondary cause: Victim inattention (?)
Class: Other	Date of main report: [No date recorded]
ID original source: none	Name of source: MAPA/UNOCHA
Organisation: Name removed	
Mine/device: PMN AP blast	Ground condition: not recorded
Date record created: 12/02/2004	Date last modified: 12/02/2004
No of victims: 1	No of documents: 1

Map details

Longitude:	Latitude:
Alt. coord. system:	Coordinates fixed by:
Map east:	Map north:
Map scale: not recorded	Map series:
Map edition:	Map sheet:
Map name:	

Accident Notes

visor not worn or worn raised (?)

no independent investigation available (?)

inadequate investigation (?)

inadequate area marking (?)

Accident report

No investigation on behalf of the UN MAC was carried out because this was not classed as a demining accident, although the victim was working as a deminer at the time. The following summarises the content of exchanges with the insurer.

The victim was injured when a farmer drove a tractor into an uncleared area close to where he was working. The deminer went to warn the tractor driver when the tractor ran over a PMN (identified from "found fragments") and the deminer suffered small facial and left eye injuries.

Victim Report

Victim number: 141	Name: Name removed
Age:	Gender: Male
Status: deminer	Fit for work: yes
Compensation: 4,269 Rs	Time to hospital: not recorded
Protection issued: Helmet	Protection used: Helmet
Thin, short visor	

Summary of injuries:

INJURIES

minor Eyes

minor Face

COMMENT

See medical report.

Medical report

The victim's injuries were summarised as irritation and abrasion of cornea: "injuries and swelling of upper lid of orbital skin area". A sketch showed four facial fragment strikes. A photograph showed very minor facial injuries.

A compensation claim was submitted on 29th May 1997 in which it was said that the victim returned to work on 3rd February 1997.

Compensation of 4,269 Rs was paid on 27th June 1997.

Analysis

The primary cause of this accident is listed as a "*Field control inadequacy*" because the victim went into an uncleared area and his error was not corrected. It should have been a field supervisor's job to warn the driver, and this should have been done from a distance (and while wearing a visor).

The secondary cause is listed as "*Victim inattention*" because it seems likely that the victim did not think about the possible consequences of his actions.

The agency that was used to make investigations for the UN MAC (based in Pakistan) at this time was frequently constrained by lack of funds, staff and transport. At times their movement was constrained by safety concerns. As a result, investigations were frequently delayed by weeks, meaning that an assessment of the site at the time of the accident was impossible.